

WE CLAIM:

1. A system for matching entities having needs to entities having capability to meet the needs, the system comprising:

5           a plurality of needs profiles, wherein each need  
profile comprises a data record specifying attributes  
about a need;

a plurality of capability profiles, wherein each capability profile comprises a data record specifying set of attributes of an entity having a capability of meeting a need; and

a matching engine coupled to repetitively and automatically examine the needs profiles and capability profiles to identify matched profiles, wherein a match  
15 comprises a set of profiles judged to be substantially compatible based upon correspondence of the attributes specified therein.

2. The system of claim 1 further comprising a notification message generated to first and second users associated with a matched profile.

3. The system of claim 2 wherein the notification message includes a selected subset of attributes from the matched profile(s).

4. The system of claim 3 further comprising:

a response message generated by a recipient of a notification message; and

5        a detailed notification message generated to the  
users associated with the matched profiles in response to  
receiving response messages both users associated with a  
particular matched profile.

5. The system of claim 1 wherein the each need profile specifies attributes that describe a human











26. The method of claim 25 further comprising:  
responding to the notification with an indication of  
further interest in the identified match; and

generating a detailed notification message to the  
5 users associated with the matched profiles in response to  
receiving response messages from both users associated  
with a particular matched profile.

27. The method of claim 23 wherein the act of generating a capability profile comprises including attributes within the capability profile that describe the associated user's desire to apply particular skills in a future employment.

28. A signal-bearing medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform a method for job applicants with hiring agents, the method comprising:

5       generating a plurality of needs profiles, wherein  
each needs profile comprises attributes about a need  
associated with a particular hiring agent;

storing the needs profiles as a data record;

generating a plurality of capability profiles,  
10 wherein each capability profile attributes of a job  
applicant;

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storing the capabilities profiles as a data record;
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and

repetitively and automatically matching the needs  
15 profiles and capability profiles to identify matched  
profiles, wherein a match comprises a set of profiles  
judged to be substantially compatible based upon  
correspondence of the attributes specified therein.